

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

TRANSFERRING FIRST-CLASS MAIL PARCELS  
TO THE COMPETITIVE PRODUCT LIST

Docket No. MC2015-7

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 1**  
(December 15, 2014)

The Postal Service hereby files its responses to questions 1 and 2 of Chairman's Information Request No. 1, issued on December 9, 2014. The questions are stated verbatim and are followed by the Postal Service's responses. A response to question 3 will be filed shortly.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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1. The Postal Service asserts that after the transfer, First-Class Mail Parcels will continue to be sealed against inspection. Request, Attachment B at 2. The Postal Service included proposed Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) language as Attachment A of its Request. The proposed language does not specify that the new First-Class Package Service rate category titled "Retail" will be sealed against inspection.
  - a. Please confirm that the First-Class Mail, Keys and Identification Devices category of mail is not sealed against inspection, and will not be sealed against inspection upon transfer to First-Class Package Service. If not confirmed, please provide an explanation.
  - b. Please confirm that the First-Class Package Service, Commercial Plus mail is sealed against inspection. If not confirmed, please provide an explanation.
  - c. Please confirm that the MCS language appearing below accurately describes the sealed against inspection aspects of First-Class Package Service. If not confirmed, please provide an explanation and propose alternative MCS language.

**2125            First-Class Package Service**

2125.1        Description

- a. Any mailable matter may be mailed as First-Class Package Service Commercial Base mail, except matter that meets the definition of "letter" in 39 C.F.R. § 310.1 and does not fit within any of the exceptions or suspensions to the Private Express Statutes in 39 C.F.R. Parts 310 and 320.
- b. Any mailable matter may be mailed as First-Class Package Service Retail or Commercial Plus mail.
- c. First-Class Package Service Commercial Base mail is not sealed against postal inspection. Mailing of matter as such constitutes consent by the mailer to postal inspection of the contents, regardless of the physical closure.
- d. First-Class Package Service Retail (except for Keys and Identification Devices) and Commercial Plus mail is sealed against inspection.
- ~~de.~~ First-Class Package Service pieces that are undeliverable-as-addressed are entitled to be forwarded or returned to the sender without additional charge.

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- ef. An annual mailing fee is required to be paid at each office of mailing by any person who mails at presorted prices (1505.2). Payment of the fee allows the mailer to mail at the First-Class Package Service price.

*Attachments and Enclosures*

- a. First-Class Mail or Standard Mail pieces may be attached to or enclosed in First-Class Package Service mail. Additional postage may be required for Commercial Base mail.

**RESPONSE:**

- a. Confirmed.
- b. Confirmed.
- c. Confirmed.

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2. The Postal Service asserts that the new First-Class Package Service category would maintain the First-Class Mail Parcels' existing service standards. Request at 2.
- a. Please confirm that the Postal Service measures and reports First-Class Mail Parcels' service performance to the Commission pursuant to 39 U.S.C. § 3652(a)(2)(B)(i) and 39 C.F.R. § 3055, *et. seq.* If not confirmed, please provide an explanation.
  - b. Please confirm that the Postal Service is not required to measure or report service performance for First-Class Package Service to the public, or to the Commission. If not confirmed, please provide an explanation.
  - c. Please confirm that the First-Class Mail Parcels' service performance measurement is used as a service performance measurement proxy for First-Class Mail Outbound Single-Piece First-Class Mail International Parcels and Inbound Letter Post parcels. If not confirmed (or if the list is incomplete), please provide an explanation.
  - d. Assuming that the First-Class Mail Parcels is incorporated into First-Class Package Service and its service performance measurement was used as a service performance measurement proxy for other products, please provide the Postal Service's plan for future service performance measurement of those products that were previously represented by the proxy. If the Postal Service determines that resolution of this issue will require docketing in separate proceedings, please provide a date when the Commission can expect the Postal Service's requests.

**RESPONSE:**

- a. Confirmed.
- b. Confirmed.
- c. Not confirmed. Outbound Single-Piece First-Class Package International Service is a competitive product and service performance measurement reporting under 39 CFR Part 3055 is no longer required. "First-Class Mail Outbound Single-Piece First-Class Mail International Parcels" is not a product or service offered by the Postal Service. "Inbound Letter Post parcels" is not a product offered by the Postal

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Service. Inbound Letter Post, which includes letters, cards, flats and packets, does utilize First-Class Mail Parcels as a proxy for the packet component of the overall service performance measurement for Inbound Letter Post.

- d. Inbound Letter Post is currently being measured for service performance using several methods which produce a combined score for the entire product. Inbound letter post packets are not a separate product (see Mail Classification Schedule 1130) and are not reported individually (see PRC Docket No. RM2009-11, Order No. 465, Appendix Tables 1, 2 & 3). Nevertheless, the Postal Service is currently undertaking a review of its service performance measurement systems. Based on this review, the Postal Service expects to determine whether existing data sources may furnish a suitable alternative or determine to utilize a different proxy in performance reporting.